Royal Tunbridge Wells CHORAL SOCIETY Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society Assembly Hall
Theatre
Tunbridge Wells

BEETHOVEN

MISSA SOLEMNIS

Mass in D.

JACQUELYN FUGELLE

SOPRANO

BRIAN BURROWS

TENOR

GWYNETH GRIFFITHS

JONATHAN ROBARTS

BASS-BARITONE

CONTRALTO

Full Orchestra

Conductor: DEREK WATMOUGH

Sunday 16th April 1978 at 3 p.m.

THE ARTISTS



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JACQUELYN FUGELLE

Jaccquelyn Fugelle was born in Portsmouth She awarded a Scholarship to the Guildhall School of Music, where she studied singing with Ellis Keeler gaining her Associate of Guildhall School of Music Diploma with Distinction in Performance. She has sung lead roles in many operas including Mozart's "Magic Flute" and Richard Strauss's 'Ariadne auf Naxos" and has appeared in concerts, recitals and oratorios throughout England and Wales including performances at the Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, Fairfield Hall and major Cathedrals.

She has made broadcasts including recitals for BBC Overseas, Radio London and Cologne Radio.

GWYNETH GRIFFITHS

Gwyneth Griffiths is a Contralto of exceptional vocal ability. She has studied with some of the finest musicians in the country, and has won several major prizes including the coveted Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship. Since then she has sung through out Britain and in most of the major Cathedrals and Concert Halls which include The Festival, the Queen Elizabeth and Albert Halls.

Gwyneth Griffiths has received considerable acclaim from her international appearances in Rio de Janeiro and Zurich.



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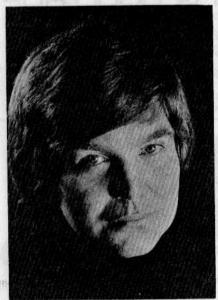
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BRIAN BURROWS

Brian Burrows comes from Beccles, Suffolk where his early interest in music was encouraged by participation in the nearby Aldburgh Festival. As a treble he sang in the first performances of Britten's "Noyes Fludde" and, taking advice of Imogen Holst and Peter Pears successfully competed for a choral Scholarship at St. John's College, Cambridge

After Cambridge he sang in Salisbury Cathedral choir for a year and later when accepted as a pupil by Walter Gruner, gave up a successful career as a computer systems consultant to sing full-time. He was awarded a Scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music and later when studying at the London Opera Centre, appeared in several productions at Sadlers Wells.

Since 1972 when Brian Burrows joined the Glyndebourne Festival Chorus, he has appeared widely in opera, oratorio, and concert productions.

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BEETHOVEN - Life and works

assistant Court organist in 1785 and was later sent by the Elector of Cologne to under his father, a tenor singer, and began to publish his music in 1783. He became under-stood. pianoforte extemporisation before the merit of written composition was fully Vienna where he became a pupil of Haydn and acquired a high reputation for The great German composer, born at Bonn 16th December 1770 studied music

Germany in 1796 being the most important break. His later life was rendered somewhat morbid by his deafness, of which the first signs appeared in 1797. Beethoven died in 1827. Almost all his life was spent in or near Vienna, his artistic tour of North

the first from 1800 to 1814 comprising symphonies 2-8, the opera Fidelio, the music to Goethe's Egmont and the overture to Prometheus, King Stephen, and Sonatas Op. 101, 102, 106, 109, 110 111 Fidelio, the second comprising the 9th symphony, the Missa Solemnis and the His best works were published after 1800 and fall naturally into two periods:

JONATHAN ROBARTS

Jonathan Robarts was born in Edinburgh in 1949 and began his singing and musical studies there. In 1968 he won an Open Choral Scholarship to Kings College Cambridge where he studied for an Honours degree in French, German and Music.

On leaving Cambridge he was awarded a Merchant Taylor's Company Scholarship for Postgraduate Study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Whilst there he undertook many varied roles including the Count in "The Marriage of Figaro" and Sarastro in "The Magic Flute".

Jonathan Robarts has performed widely in oratorio and recital engagements and has been particularly noted for his performances in Bach's "St John Passion", Brahm's "Requiem" and Faure's "Requiem".

He sings regularly in professional groups in London, has worked for BBC and has recorded with the major recording companies.



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MASS IN D

'Missa Solemnis'

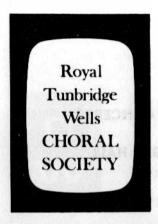
In 1819, Rudolph, Archduke of Austria was elected a Cardinal and Beethoven for whom the Archduke was both a patron and personal friend wrote to congratulate him on his success and, wishing to celebrate his friend's success in a tangible form wrote "The day on which a High Mass composed by me will be performed during the ceremonies solemnized for Your Imperial Highness will be the most glorious day of my life"

The Missa Solemnis must therefore rank as the largest and most magnificently conceived work ever written for a specifically liturgical occasion although Beethoven's original intention was never realised.

Rudolph was enthroned in 1820 to the music of Haydn and Hummel. Beethoven finished his setting of Missa Solemnis in 1823 and the first complete performance was on March 26th 1824 in St. Petersbug at a concert organised by Prince Galitzin.

Parts of the Missa Solemnis were performed in Vienna in the same year at the premiere of the Ninth Symphony and it was at this performance that one of the soloists turned Beethoven around so he could see the applause for his work he could no longer hear.

The Missa Solemnis follows the usual form of the Mass; Kyrie, Gloria, Credo Sanctus, and Agnus Dei.



THE SOCIETY

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society was founded in 1904 and gives local people an opportunity of performing choral music to a high standard in the company of professional choral musicians. The Society's repertoire - religious and secular covers a wide range from traditional to modern works.

A question that is frequently asked is why the Society performs familiar works so often. The question usually carries with it an implication that we ought to give lesser-known pieces or lesser-known composers. And this we do indeed, having performed BRITTEN'S Cantata Academica, HOLST Hymn of Jesus, VERDI Four Sacred Pieces but this is not a straightforward answer in that these works, gems though they are in the world of choral music do not draw sufficient audiences, and these days it is the pounds that matter. The Society is given support by the various bodies mentioned on the back of this programme but the quality and variety of its performances depend mainly on the income raised by the Society itself. Full choral concerts are becoming increasingly expensive. It is here that our audiences are so important. Important too is the valuable support given by Patrons and vice Presidents. Are you a Patron? or a VP?. If you would not wish to become a singing member of the Society please give your support this way.



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Patrons of the Society may either contribute a minimum of £10 each season and receive 2 free tickets for each concert or, may covenant £7 or more in accordance with the Society's status of a Charity.

Vice-Presidents contribute a minimum of £5 each season and receive one free ticket.

The names of Patrons and Vice-Presidents are prominently displayed on concert programmes.

If you would like to support us in either of these ways, will you please contact the General Secretary, whose name appears at the foot of the page.

We express our thanks to existing Patrons and Vice-Presidents for their past and continuing support, and to the management and staff of the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

General Secretary, G.D. Stredder, Birchetts Court, Stockland Green Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN3 0TY. Telephone: Langton 2887.

The National Federation of Music Societies and the South Eastern Arts Association to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the costs of concerts with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council also provides guarantees.

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is a Registered Charity.